

strategies for its implementation c also identical c were carried out by the Town.

#### POLICY

The Town is opposed to any offshore exploration for or production of oil or natural gas in the vicinity of the Outer Banks. Such activity would be incompatible with the Town, its established tourist industry, fishing industry, and the preservation of natural and public trust areas -- all particularly dependent upon uninterrupted ocean and groundwater of the highest quality.

#### IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The Town will oppose any offshore exploration for energy sources through lobbying efforts and the adoption of local regulations as necessary.

### 11. Energy Facilities

#### BACKGROUND

Energy facilities other than electric power substations are deemed to be not compatible with the Town. There is strong public opinion that all utilities should be placed underground.

Over 85% of survey respondents agreed or strongly disagreed that new utilities should be placed underground, while 61.3% favored relocating existing overhead utilities underground.

The preferred method to fund relocation of overhead utilities was grants. The second preference, as reflected by responses written in, was Aother.@ In most cases the response written in was the Apower company or utilities.@ Contributions from effected individuals was the third preference while the use of ad valorem taxes was least preferred. Of those choosing to respond to the question concerning whether placement of new utilities lines underground or relocation of existing overhead utility lines should be supported by higher taxes and/or high utilities bills, 64.6% disagreed or strongly disagreed while 18.0% agreed or strongly agreed.

A policy identical to the policy which follows was included in the 1993 Update and the strategies for its implementation c also identical c were partially carried out by the Town. The Town recently adopted regulations to